

REMARKS

In the Office Action issued January 28, 2008, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Published Application No. 2004/0226031 to Zimmerman et al. (Zimmerman) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,718,543 to Aria et al. ("Aria") and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,560,005 to Hoover et al. ("Hoover"). Claims 3 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of Aria and Hoover and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,088,694 to Burns et al. (Burns). Claims 1-9 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 5 and 8 have been amended.

The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 1, 2, 4-5, and 7-9, is not unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of Arai and Hoover. In particular, the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, requires a computer implemented method of a) determining the presence of the second data handling application and, if it is present, b) generating a link to a software routine provided by the first self-contained data handling application including appending an address for the software routine configured to execute when the at least one call routine for the second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application executes, wherein the first self-contained data handling application and the second, previously installed, self contained data handling application are operable to execute without each other.

Zimmermann discloses the use of a dynamic library with an installed application program. The Examiner indicates on page 2 of the Office action that the application program disclosed in paragraph 5 of Zimmerman corresponds to the claimed first self contained data

handling application and that the dynamic library corresponds to the second, previously, installed, self-contained data handling application. The application can use the library to perform certain features of the application, but can function properly without the library. See Zimmerman paragraph 7. The library disclosed in Zimmerman, on the other hand, is a collection of subprograms used that can be used by the application to have access to specific features of the application. A Library contains "helper" code and data, which provide services to independent programs, self-contained application. This allows code and data to be shared and changed in a modular fashion. There is no disclosure in Zimmerman that the dynamic library or static library is operable to execute without the application program. The libraries disclosed by Zimmerman are not "self-contained data handling applications operable to execute without each other" as and thus Zimmerman does not teach "wherein the first self-contained data handling application and the second, previously installed, self contained data handling application are operable to execute without each other" as required by each of the independent claims.

Zimmerman also fails to disclose, as acknowledged by the Examiner, "appending an address for the software routine configured to execute when the at least one call routine for the second, previously installed, self-contained data handling application executes."

Aria does not cure the deficiencies of Zimmerman. Like Zimmerman, Aria discloses a system that implements a self contained application and libraries that are used by the application. The libraries of Aria are not operable to execute without an application program. Thus, the libraries disclosed by Aria are not "self-contained data handling applications operable to execute without each other" as claimed by the present invention. In addition, there is no teaching, implicitly or explicitly, that would motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to make a library that

is a self-contained application that does not need to operate with another application as now claimed by the present invention. The entire purpose of a library is to provide helper subprograms that are used by independent programs.

The Examiner attempts to rely on Hoover to cure the deficiencies of Zimmerman and Aria. Hoover merely discloses the use of a process called the “interface open server” that is provided to bridge the processes of a customer database and a remote database. See Hoover, col. 10, lines 17-23. The interface server operates to transform the heterogeneous data models of the customer database into homogeneous data models at the remote database (i.e., making the data models used by the customer database the same as the data models used by the remote database). See Hoover, col. 10, lines 23-27. This transformation does not make the data models operable to execute without an application. In fact, the transformation that occurs to the data model of the customer database is so that it can be used by another database, such as the remote database. There is no disclosure in Hoover about making data models or subprograms, such as those found in libraries, operable without another application. Thus Hoover does not teach “wherein the first self-contained data handling application and the second, previously installed, self contained data handling application are operable to execute without each other” as required by each of the independent claims.”

Thus, the present invention, according to claim 1, and according to claims 5 and 8, which are similar to claim 1, and according to claims 2, 4, 7, and 9, which depend therefrom, is not unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of Aria and Hoover.

The applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 3 and 6 is not unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of Aria and Hoover further in view of Bums because Bums does not cure the deficiencies of Zimmerman, Aria and Hoover. Thus, the present

invention, according to claims 3 and 6 is not unpatentable over Zimmerman in view of Aria, Hoover and Burns.

Each of the claims now pending in this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

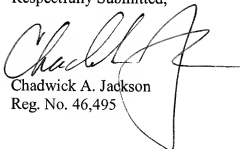
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-4545 (419111.0072).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chadwick A. Jackson', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the bottom right.

Chadwick A. Jackson
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Date: June 12, 2008

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